

NOTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ICAEW SOUTH WALES DISTRICT SOCIETY ('DS')

DATE & TIME: Thursday 25th May 2023 6:30pm

VENUE: The Vale Hotel, Pontyclun

Attendees: Jared Davies DS President, Mark Etchells DS Deputy President, Nicholas Rowe DS Secretary, Andrew Morgan DS Treasurer, **Members:** Jude Bailey, Stuart Castledine, Jonathan Eddy, Tim Evans, Joanna Howell, Julie Kelly, Richard May-Hill, Djhoanna Medway, Leighton Reed, Timothy Robinson, Brian Telford, Nick Toye, Peter Umbleja, Carol Warburton, Joanne West, Mark White, Andrew Williams, Rebecca Wright

Staff: Robert Lloyd Griffiths ICAEW Director Wales, Kathryn Nash ICAEW Regional Executive.

Members Attending Online: Stephanie Boyall, Christopher Drew, Suzanne Lloyd (DS Vice President), Sarah Prescott, Ben Quirk.

Proxy Votes: David Ainsworth, Katy Chamberlain, Harri Lloyd Davies, Rupert May-Hill, Anne Smith, Olivia Tsim, Kara Williams.

1. **President's opening remarks.** Jared Davies, 2022/23 DS President, welcomed members and opened the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence:** Carla Edgley, Ffion Evans, Andy Jones, Lakshmi Narain, John Webber, David Wright.
3. **President's address:** JD thanked members in the room (22) and online (5) for attending. He also thanked ICAEW staff. JD outlined the events that had taken place over the past year, noting that the aim of the Committee had been to seek to engage members again post Covid and reinvigorate face to face networking. Events noted were as follows:
 - Two **Members in Business** events (June and Dec 22). Noted circa 85 attendees at the last December event.
 - A **summer social BBQ** and comedy night (July 22).
 - Two **Practitioners Conferences**. One was online in June 22. There was then a much bigger face to face conference in Tenby in March 23, which was very well received by the members who attended.
 - The **launch of a series of Emerging Leaders events**, commencing with a curry and quiz night (April 23).
 - An **online Sustainability Conference**, and a **number of online Economic Update or Economic Summit events**. These gave real value to members, providing expert advice and commentary on some key issues facing the profession in 2023.
 - The **Annual Dinner** in Oct 22. While it was a smaller affair than wanted – or budgeted for – we still had 275 people back at City Hall.

JD also noted challenges during the year. The committee had had to navigate a new way of working, as ICAEW centrally had started to implement a new way of curating events, ensuring consistency and quality – and that had slowed down planning of some events, initially. The committee had also had to navigate the organisational changes that were being put to a vote, brought in by ICAEW to make local groupings fit for 2023 and onwards. It was noted that the committee felt that they had reached a

good position and the new proposed Network Board (and proposals on how to organise that) should serve members well going forward.

JD thanked all those who had contributed greatly during the past year – ICAEW staff, full committee and exec committee members – and also thanked those who were stepping down at this point for their many years of contributions – Andrew Williams, Rupert May-Hill, Nick Rowe and Anne Smith. He also noted that if the vote on the new Network was passed, Mark Etchells would become Chair of the new Board, and Suzy would become Deputy Chair.

Richard May-Hill asked about the formal recording of DS history files. JD agreed this would take place as soon as possible, all notes to be handed over to Andrew Morgan in his role as President of the legacy DS. Stuart Castledine asked for an explanation of the financial deficit that occurred for the 2022 Annual Dinner. JD explained that the bookings had not been as high as expected, Tim Evans reminded Stuart that the committee had agreed to underwrite the event at a loss as it was the first face to face event since Covid. JD explained that events in the past had been expensive but free to members and that to cover costs, charges would need to be made for certain events going forward.

4. To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 17th June 2022. Minutes were approved by Nick Rowe and seconded by Tim Evans.

5. To adopt the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022. Accounts were adopted by Nick Rowe and seconded by Tim Evans.

6. Members Vote:

Mark Etchells gave a presentation on the ICAEW New Ways of Working, and Strategic Themes. He told members about the Annual Activity Plan and the annual £5,000 funding from ICAEW towards events. He stressed the need to ensure future events were cost-effective and met the framework of the Strategic Themes. He announced that the next Annual Dinner would take place at The Parkgate Hotel on 9th November 2023 (due to refurbishment of City Hall).

A number of points were debated in the room, including: the requirement for the transition given new requirements (insurance, GDPR etc); the current legal obligation on the ICAEW of DS activities; and funding going forward.

By a vote of 23 in favour, 1 against (in room and online), plus 6 proxy votes in favour, the members voted to adopt a revised constitution for the Society; and to move the operations of the Society to a local ICAEW Network with effect from 01 June 2023.

Trustees of the legacy District Society were appointed as follows:

- Andrew Morgan (23/24 President of District Society)
- David Ainsworth (23/24 Deputy President of District Society)
- Harri Lloyd Davies
- Brian Telford

7. AOB: With no other business to transact, Jared Davies thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the Annual General Meeting at 7:45pm. Robert Lloyd Griffiths also briefly addressed the meeting.

